

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

2 p.m.

2154 Rayburn

Washington, DC 20515

This hearing will examine whether or not public subsidies for professional sports stadiums divert funds and attention away from America's public infrastructure. This is the subcommittee's second hearing on the topic. On March 29, 2007, the Domestic Policy Subcommittee held a hearing that looked at the promises of economic prosperity that are made to cities which finance professional sports stadiums. The first hearing revealed that no evidence has been found to suggest that professional sports stadiums create jobs, raise incomes, or raise local tax revenues.

America's infrastructure is crumbling while state and local officials approve taxpayer-financed professional sports stadiums. About 31 percent of the nation's urban bridges are deemed structurally deficient, awaiting public investment. At the same time the public is paying about 80 percent of the costs for new professional sports facilities.

Video of the hearing:

Witnesses for the hearing include:

Panel I

Mr. Eric Solomon, Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy, *Department of Treasury*

Mr. Arthur J. Rolnick, Senior Vice President and Research Director, *Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis*

Panel II

Professor Judith Grant Long, *Assistant Professor of Urban Planning*, Graduate School of Design, Harvard University

Professor David P. Hale, Director, Aging Infrastructure Systems Center of Excellence, *University of Alabama*

Ms. Bettina Damiani, Director, *Good Jobs New York*

Dr. Steven Maguire, Specialist in Public Finance, *Congressional Research Service*

Documents and Links

- [Congressman Kucinich Opening Statement](#)
- [Eric Solomon Testimony](#)
- [Arthur Rolnick Testimony](#)
- [Judith Grant Long Testimony](#)
- [David Hale Testimony](#)
- [Bettina Damiani Testimony](#)
- [Bettina Damiani Bridges Graphic](#)
- [Steven Maguire Testimony](#)
- [Steven Maguire Slides](#)